IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning in line 8 of page 1 as follows:

Due to the progress of information society in recent years, there has been an explosive increase in the amounts of data stored in storage devices of computer systems used in information processing in various fields of social activities, and there has been a demand for high reliability for both the data and the system. As a technique for satisfying both the reliability of data and the assurance of the system operation, the multiplexing of storage devices themselves is being undertaken. The data outputted from a host computer is ~~copies~~ copied not only to the storage device directly connected thereto but also to other storage devices via that storage device.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at the bottom of page 20 as follows:

Namely, in this Step 106, if the ratio of the individually used amount 33 in the side file used by the write data stored from the open host computer 3 to the total amount used 34 has not exceeded the predetermined individual ratio threshold 32 set in advance for that fibre-channel target port 10a (individually used amount 33 ~~$\geq$~~ $\leq$ individual ratio threshold 32 x total amount used 34), the fibre-channel target port 10a jumps to Step 110 and returns a response of normal termination to the host computer (executes Steps 110 to 112 mentioned above). However, if the ratio has exceeded the individual ratio threshold 32 (individually used amount 33 > individual ratio threshold 32 x total amount used 34), the fibre-channel target port 10a determines the type of host computer (Step 107). In this case, since the system is an open system, the fibre-channel target port 10a executes sleep processing included in Fibre Channel Protocol (Step 108) to delay the response to the open host computer 3 as much as possible. Here, the reason for delaying the

response is to limit the influx speed of data from the host side. It can be readily appreciated that if while the data influx speed is being slowed down, progress is made in the remote copy to the remote disk subsystem 7 illustrated in the flowchart in Fig. 9 (which will be described later) which is asynchronously executed in parallel, the side file of the data portion whose copy has been completed is freed, so that the ratio of the write data of the relevant host computer occupied in the data buffer decreases.